

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O 051020Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 380

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 TOKYO 2913

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: TRIREGIONAL DECLARATION

REFS: (A) STATE 40799; (B) STATE 42197

SUMMARY: FONOFF WORKING LEVEL OFFICIAL PROVIDES INFORMAL OVERVIEW OF CURRENT THINKING ON TRIREGIONAL DECLARATION, INCLUDING LIKELY THRUST OF GOJ RESPONSE TO U.S. PROPOSAL FOR CONCERTED APPROACH TO EUROPEANS. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING REVIEW MARCH 4 WITH POLITICAL COUNSELOR AND EMBOFF OF CURRENT ISSUES IN U.S. JAAANESE RELATIONS, FONOFF FIRST NORTH AMERICA DIV. HEAD FUKADA DESCRIBED IN GENERAL TERMS FONOFF STATE OF MIND CONCERNING TRIREGIONAL DECLARATION. FUKAKA STRESSED THAT AMBASSADOR YASKUAWA REMAINS GOJ'S PRIMARY POINT OF CONTACT WITH USG ON THE ISSUE, AND THAT HIS OWN OBSERVATIONS WERE INFORMAL AND SOMEWHAT PERSONAL. DESPITE THIS DISCLAIMER, EMBASSY BELEIVES HIS COMMENTS CAN EXPECT TO HEAR FROM YASUKAWA IN DUE COURSE, AND IS THEREFORE REPORTING THEM IN DETAIL.

2. FUKADA SAID THAT FONOFF IS INTENSIVELY STUDYING MOST RECENT USG PROPOSAL (REF A) ON CONCERTED U.S. JAPANESE APPROACH IN EUROPEAN CAPTIALS TO SECURE SUPPORT FOR TRIREGIONAL DECLARATION TO BE CONFIDENTIAL

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SIGNED DURING POSSIBLE PRESEDENTIAL TRIP TO EUROPE THIS SPRING. FUKUDA COMMENTED THAT FONOFF WILL PROBABLY REQUIRE ANOTHER TEN DAYS BEFORE IT CAN PROVIDE YASUKAWA WITH DEFINITIVE FONOFF RESPONSE

TO U.S. HE ADDED THAT IT NOW APPEARS PRIMIN TANAKA
WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR VISIT TO
EUROPE IN APRIL.

3. FUKADA SUGGESTED THAT ENTIRE PROJECT HAS BECOME
SIGNIFICANTLY MORE COMPLICATED SINCE ITS INCEPTION.
IN EXPLAINING THIS VIEW HE REFERRED TO SEVERAL
SEPARATE BUT INTER-RELATED NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH
DEVELOPED WHEN USG CHOSE TO ACCOMODATE EUROPEAN
PREFERENCE FOR SERIES OF LINKED DOCUMENTS, RATHER
THAN INSIST ON LIMITED NUMBER OF TRILATERALS DIFFERENTIATED
ON BASIS OF SUBSTANCE RATHER THAN IDENTITY OF SIGNATORIES.
JAPAN, HE SAID CONTINUES TO FAVOR
TRIREGIONAL AGREEMENT BUT QTE MANY THINGS HAVE
HAPPENED UNQTE.

4. AT THIS POINT GOJ IS WAITING FOR REACTIONS AND
DEVELOPMENTS ON TWO FRONTS. FUKADA UNDERSTOOD
THAT EC REVISED TEXT WOULD BE PASSED TO USG ON OR
ABOUT MARCH 5, AND GOJ IS MOST INTERESTED IN LEARNING
US REACTION TO IT, PARTICULARLY WHETHER US CONSIDERS
IT ADEQUATE AS BASIS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION. GOJ IS
ALSO INTERESTED IN LEARNING WHETHER SECRETARY
DISCUSSED TRIREGIONAL DECLARATION DURING RECENT
VISITS IN LONDON AND BONN, AND IF SO, WHAT LIGHT WAS
SHED ON PROSPECTS. SECOND FRONT CONCERNS JAPANESE
RELATIONS WITH EC. FUKADA RECALLED THAT DANES,
ACTING ON BEHALF OF EC, HAD PROPOSED EC-JAPAN
BILATERAL ON NOVEMBER 14, 1973. THIS PROPOSAL
CREATED PROBLEMS THAT INHIBITED PROGRESS IN EC JAPAN DIALOGUE
AND TO REGAIN MOMENTUM GOJ ON JAN. 29 HAD STRESSED TO
GERMANS (IN THEIR CURRENT ROLE AS EC CHAIRMAN)
JAPANESE WILLINGNESS TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES.
FUKADA SAID GOJ HAS YET TO RECEIVE FORMAL EC
REACTION TO JAPANESE DEMARCHE. GOJ HAS IMPRESSION
EC IS GIVING PRIORITY TO ITS NEGOTIATIONS WITH US AND
WILL NOT SERIOUSLY FOCUS ON JAPAN RELATIONSHIP
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UNTIL ARRANGEMENT WITH US HAS BEEN DETERMINED.
IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONN FUKADA SAID GOJ HAS GENERATED
ONLY ONE PAPER ON ENTIRE SUBJECT OF TRIREGIONAL
RELATIONSHIP, AND THAT IS DOCUMENT PREPARED IN
SEPT. 1973 AND PASSED TO USG.

5. CONCERNING OUTLOOK FOR ENTIRE EXERCISE, FUKADA
EXPRESSED HIMSELF AS SOMEWHAT PESSIMISTIC BECAUSE
OF ATTITUDES OF FRENCH. HE BELEIVES IT WOULD BE
DIFFICULT FOR EC TO PERMIT ITSELF TO BE DIVIDED ON
THIS HIGHLY POLITICAL AND QTE ALMOST PHILOSOPHICAL UNQTE
UNDERTAKING. ANY SPLIT WOULD DEAL SERIOUS BLOW TO
EC, AND FUKADA THEREFORE CONCLUDES THAT IF EC

AGREES TO COOPERATE IT WILL ONLY BE WITH FRENCH CONCURRENCE.

6. IN RELATED REMARKS, FUKADA EXPLAINED THAT FONOFF HAS SOME PROBLEMS WITH USG PROPOSAL FOR CONCERTED APPROACH TO EUROPEANS. SEVERAL EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE EXPRESSED APPREHENSION TO GOJ THAT U.S. AND JAPAN MAY USE TRIREGIONAL NEGOTIATIONS TO GANG-UP AGAINST EC. IN LIGHT OF THIS EUROPEAN SENSITIVITY, CONCERTED U.S. JAPAN EFFORT MIGHT CONFIRM EUROPEAN FEARS AND FURTHER COMPROMISE PROSPECTS FOR ACHIEVING DECLARATION. FUKADA SUGGESTED IT MIGHT BE MORE DESIRABLE FOR US, JAPAN AND SOME EUROPEANS TO CONDUCT MULTILATERAL REVIEW, FOR EXAMPLE, FRG COULD HOST MEETING AT ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL IN BONN FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF ENTIRE PROJECT.

7. FUKADA'S DEPUTY MATSUURA, WHO SAT IN ON CONVERSATION, MENTIONED THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH HALSTEAD OF CANADIAN FONOFF DURING MID-FEBRUARY VISIT TO OTTAWA. IT APPEARED TO MATSUURA THAT CANADIAN POSITION IS SIMILAR TO THAT OF JAPAN: THEY WISH TO PRESERVE THEIR RELATIONS WITH EC AT SAME TIME THAT THEY BELIEVE MULTIREGIONAL DECLARATION WOULD BE MORE USEFUL THAN INTER-CONNECTED BILATERALS. HE HAS IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, THAT CANADA IS SOMEWHAT MORE EAGER TO TALK WITH EC
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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W
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O 051020Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 TOKYO 2913

EXDIS

E.O. 115652 GDS
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJ: TRIREGIONAL DECLARATION

THAN IS JAPAN. MOREOVER, WHILE CANADA HAS NOT COMMITTED ITSELF TO NEGOTIATING BILATERAL DECLARATION WITH EC, THEY HAVE BEEN STUDYING SUBJECT MOST DILIGENTLY.

8. AS FOR NEXT STEPS, FUKADA SAID THAT FONOFF WILL DEVISE RESPONSE FOR YASUKAWA TO PASS TO DEPARTMENT ON PROPOSAL FOR CONCERNED ACTION, AT WHICH TIME YASUKAWA WILL ALSO HOPE TO HAVE SECRETARY'S VIEWS ON CURRENT EUROPEAN ATTITUDES TOWARD DECLARATION, AS WELL AS SECRETARY'S ASSESSMENT OF REVISED EUROPEAN DRAFT.

9. COMMENT: POLITICAL COUNSELOR LARGELY HEARD FUKADA OUT ON THIS SUBJECT WITHOUT OFFERING OBSERVATIONS, NOT WISHING TO MUDDY UNDERSTANDINGS BEING DEVELOPED BETWEEN AMBASSADOR YASUKAWA AND DEPARTMENT. EMBASSY WOULD ALSO CAUTION,

AS FUKADA DID, THAT HIS OBSERVATIONS WERE IN LARGE PART PERSONAL AND DO NOT RPT NOT REPRESENT FORMAL GOJ DECISIONS. NEVERTHELESS, SINCE FUKADA IS PRIMARY DRAFTING OFFICER IN FONOFF FOR THIS SUBJECT, HIS VIEWS WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE
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ON FINAL DECISIONS.

10. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO OTHER INTERESTED CAPITALS.
SHOESMITH

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